164 W. 45th St.,

Nov. 29, 1887.

My dear May,

I was glad to see your hand-writing once more, and not a little amused by your happy and vigorous characterization of Eli Thayer. What a "critter" he is, to be sure! There are no lances to be worn in controversy with him, and I speak only for the information of the spectators. I was curious to see in what false pretence

he built his charge that the Emigrants opposed making Kansas a free State, and so I went to the folio of the Liberator in the Astor Library and a good time I had, as you may imagine, on that quarry. Every page throbbed with life, and it was hard to hurry over much that I longed to stop and read. In my researches I discovered Greeley's admirable picture of my antagonist, which no doubt amused you as it did me. What reply he will make remains to be seen, but I suppose he will try to meet my

challenge for proof of his main allegation. But he can say nothing to redeem his reputation as a falsifier. His own chosen witnesses have nearly all gone back on him!

The death of Edward M. Davis was a great surprise to me. He was an exceptionally strong and healthy man, as I supposed, and likely to outlive us all. He was a faithful soul, and our cause owed much to him in many ways. His eccentricities in financial and political affairs did much to lead Wendell Phillips astray in his later years.

I sent off 50 copies of
my latest reply to Thayer,
among them to Senators Dawes
and Hoar, Ed. Worcester Spy,
Joseph Howland, Parker
Pillsbury, &c. A good many
people in this city were inter-
ested in it, and it has mad-
est a little talk.

My health remains as
good as when I last wrote
you. Mrs. Johnson and
our daughter send kind re-
membrances to you and Mrs
May.

With warm affection,

Yours, as ever,

Oliver Johnson.

MS. B. L. G. V. 12. P. 24